

“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”

MINUTES

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board

April 15, 2004

Meeting held at:

City Administration Building
202 “C” Street, 12th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

Mailing address is:

City of San Diego
Park & Recreation Board
202 “C” Street, MS 9B
San Diego, CA 92101

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Ginny Barnes, Vice Chair
Dan Coffey
Aurora Cudal
Darlene Gould Davies
Kevin Faulconer
Norman Greene
Bob Otile

Members Absent

Jim Austin, Chair
Dan Mazzella
Olivia Puentes-Reynolds
Robert Robinson

Staff Present

Div Brasted	Ellen Oppenheim
Bill Deloatch	April Penera
Mark Marney	Sally Pearson
Ted Medina	Robin Shifflet
Hossein Motamani	Jim Winter
Kevin Oliver	

Ms. Shannon Thomas, Deputy City Attorney, was present.

Chairman Austin and Mr. Robinson gave notice that they would be unable to attend the meeting today.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Ginny Barnes called the meeting to order at 2:14 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Greene/Mr. Faulconer

The Minutes of March 18, 2004 were approved by the Board with one abstention (Ms. Cudal).

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Don Steele, citizen, expressed his disappointment with the actions taken at the April 1, 2004 Balboa Park Committee meeting with regard to making all of Grape Street Park an off-leash facility. He had concerns about safety and using public land for a single use. He hopes this issue will be revisited at a future Park and Recreation Board meeting.

COMMENTS OR ADDITIONS

None.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Vice Chair Barnes welcomed Ms. Aurora Cudal, newly appointed member of the Board. When asked to describe her background, Ms. Cudal explained that she is President of the Council of Phillipine American Organizations of San Diego County, Inc. and a member of the Mayor's Asian Pacific Islander Advisory Board. She is looking forward to being a contributing member of the Park & Recreation Board.

Vice Chair Barnes asked the Board members to turn in the request for address and phone updates to Ms. Pearson, Board secretary. She also referenced the Farewell Celebration flyer for outgoing City Manager, Michael Uberuaga, that will be held on April 17, 2004.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Oppenheim reported on the following:

- Welcomed Ms. Cudal to the Board, and congratulated all the newly reappointed Board members. The Ethics Commission is pleased to report that all Board members have completed the training and have been presented with their certificates.
- On April 12, an employee of Tecolote Golf Course was killed in an apparent robbery when leaving the facility to deposit the weekend golf receipts. Although the golf course is on City land, it is leased and operated by American Golf and it was one of their employees who was tragically involved. Cash and receipts are picked up by armored truck for City facilities.
- April is National Stress Awareness Month. The Park & Recreation Department provides a wide variety of activities for all ages to aid in stress reduction.
- Staff from the San Diego Padres joined City staff, youth and their parents from the Memorial Little League to officially announce the start of construction on the 24th Little Padres Park at Memorial Community Park. The park will be ready for play in August.
- The Grants Office recently applied for a \$3.7 million grant for the Open Space Brush Management Program. The competitive grant program is funded from the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) through the California Office of Emergency Services

(OES). The City will match the requested funding with \$1.2 million if the grant is received. Awards should be announced by summer 2004.

FRIENDS OF PARKS REPORT

No report.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

A motion was made by Mr. Coffey and seconded by Mr. Greene to approve on consent the following agenda item:

101. Camino Ruiz Neighborhood Park – General Development Plan Approval of the General Development Plan

The motion passed unanimously.

Adoption

102. Sprint PCS Telecommunication Facility at Doyle Community Park Approval of the proposed project

This project was presented in its entirety at the October 2003 Board meeting. At that time, the Board voted to table all telecommunication facilities until the existing Council Policy was updated, and approved by the City Council. It is anticipated that the new policy will be presented to the City Council sometime in late April or early May 2004.

Questions arose from the Board members as to why this item was being brought before them again without the updated and approved policy they requested in October 2003. In response, Deputy City Attorney, Shannon Thomas, explained that reconsideration had been requested by the Park and Recreation Department in anticipation of the policy going before City Council in late April or early May, which then would meet those conditions. Ms. Oppenheim explained that because the Board did not appear to be opposed to the project in general, and since the project has strong support from the community, and because an approved policy is forthcoming, she hoped that the Board might rethink their position. Because the current policy has been redesigned as a city-wide policy, the process has taken longer than expected due to the number of departments involved.

Ms. April Penner, Park Planning and Development Deputy Director, provided an overview of the current policy, and explained that the policy going before City Council is an updated version of this policy. Ms. Penner clarified that the purpose of the policy is to establish guidelines for the processing of applications for wireless communications, new and existing, on private and public city land and described the responsibilities of the Park and Recreation Department, the Real Estate Assets Department, and the

Development Services Department including each step of the process up to implementation. She also explained how the Real Estate Assets Department determines the one time site consideration fee and annual rent and where the monies go. Ms. Penner stated that the project itself does not require City Council approval, only the policy. The Park and Recreation Director can approve administratively but has chosen not to do this so that the Board would have another opportunity to hear the testimony today and possibly reconsider the proposal. Ms. Penner then responded to questions from the Board.

Mr. Jim Winter, Project Manager, Park Planning & Development, Mr. Jack Farris, Real Estate Assets Deputy Director, and Mr. Mac Strobl and Mr. Gerry Merrick, Sprint Representatives, were available to answer questions.

Mr. Mac Strobl, San Diego County Government Relations Representative from Sprint PCS, addressed the policy circumstances and some of the procedural issues that were raised.

Public testimony regarding the proposed policy was heard from Ms. Mary Coakley, citizen.

Public testimony in favor of the project was heard from Ms. Naomi McLean, representing Doyle Park Recreation Council.

Questions and concerns arose from the Board regarding the length of time it has taken for the policy to be processed and go to City Council and how hesitant they are about approving any telecommunication facilities without an approved policy in place. Their main concern is that they do not want this to set a precedent for the other thirteen telecommunication facilities that are going through the system at the current time.

MOTION MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Greene/Ms. Davies

Mr. Greene moved to approve the Sprint PCS Telecommunication Facility at Doyle Community Park with the condition that once Sprint vacates the building that a sidewalk will be constructed by Sprint from the building to the primary sidewalk. Mr. Mac Strobl, representing Sprint PCS, agreed that either Sprint or any successor of Sprint would honor this requirement. The motion passed Vote: 5-1-0

INFORMATION ITEMS

201. Dogs Off-Leash Status

Vice Chair Barnes is taking this Information item out of order as it directly relates to action item #103.

Mr. Mark Marney, Project Officer, Park Planning & Development Division of the Park and Recreation Department, provided an update on the off-lease facilities within the City.

In June 2002, the City Council established five off-leash areas that would undergo a one year trial period. Four of the sites have been constructed and have completed the one year trial period and are awaiting City council consideration for permanent status. The fifth site did not receive sufficient community interest or funding and has been discontinued as a potential off-leash area for now. In preparation for City Council action, staff has reviewed each of the sites and received input from the appropriate advisory bodies regarding the success of the trial period and issues that have arisen regarding the off-leash areas. Mr. Marney described the comments and recommendations received for each of the sites.

Maintenance issues and the associated costs was a concern of the Board.

Public testimony was heard from Ms. Laura Emerick, citizen.

**103. Rancho Bernardo Community Park – Off Leash Area
Approval of Off-Leash Design**

Ms. Robin Shifflet, Park Planner with the Park Planning and Development Division of the Park and Recreation Department, explained that the site is located at the existing Rancho Bernardo Community Park and has been approved by both the Rancho Bernardo Recreation Council and Design Review Committee with certain conditions, all of which will be incorporated into the construction documents.

Public testimony was heard in favor of the project by Mr. Don Steele, citizen. Mr. Steele also answered questions and offered suggestions regarding turf maintenance of the area.

MOTION MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Faulconer/Mr. Greene

Mr. Faulconer moved to approve the project as presented. Vice Chair Barnes confirmed with Ms. Shifflet that there would be self-closing gates at the park and that signage, indicating rules and regulations, inside as well as outside of the park, would be considered. Ms. Shifflet agreed that it would be considered. Mr. Greene seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

WORKSHOP: FY2005 BUDGET

Conclusion of the discussion that began at the March 18, 2004 meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Balboa Park Committee

No report.

Area Committee CP I/Area Committee CP II

A combined meeting was held on March 25. Vice Chair of CP II, Mr. Dan Coffey, reported that the committee discussed how to apply The Brown Act to their Recreation Council meetings, the requirement that Recreation Councils establish a non-profit status over a period of not more than two years, and that any monies received by the Recreation Council would be deposited into an account that could be accessed by the City, if necessary. According to Ms. Barnes, a conditional use permit and the policies and procedures guideline is being worked on first so that these documents can be used to begin the recreation council by-law process. Ms. Barnes commented that there are plenty of representatives from the CPI group that would like to be involved in the process, but they are still looking for representatives from the CP II recreation council members to make sure their concerns are heard.

City Lakes Committee

No report.

Design Review Committee

No report.

Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens' Advisory Committee

No report.

Mission Bay Park Committee

Mr. Otilie was unable to attend the Mission Bay Park Committee meeting. He did report that the Boy Scouts have been told by a Federal judge that they are a religious organization and therefore can no longer be the lessee at the Fiesta Island site. Mr. Otilie commented that upon taking over control of Mission Bay Golf Course, it ceased to be a commercial lease (only 25% of Mission Bay Park can be commercially leased land) and became a City self-operated park property. Any monies from commercial leases over \$20 million are directed to a fund that benefits capital improvements in the park. Ms. Oppenheim reminded Mr. Otilie that now 100% of the revenue from the golf course will be retained by the City and will go into the Golf Enterprise Fund for improvements at the golf course assuming there are no other requirements related to DeAnza that would have an impact on the funding.

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee

No report.

Tecolote Canyon Natural Park

No report.

Wetlands Advisory

No report.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting is: Thursday, May 20, 2004

City Administration Building
Council Committee Room
202 "C" Street, 12th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

Submitted by,

Ellen Oppenheim
Staff Representative

EO:sp

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